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even where the rules of the game are observed. That is the point which General Young wishes all the critics to see.

The real lesson to be learned from these frank, ghastly utterances of the prospective general-in-chief of the United States army, the mere reading of which chills one's soul to the bottom, is a much deeper one than his critics have generally imagined. This lesson is that a system so inherently cruel and deadening to all the humane instincts of the soul must be totally abolished. The "civilization" of it will not do, for such civilization in any real and complete sense can never be accomplished, the warriors themselves being the judges.

If anything were wanting to show the utter moral corruption and loathsomeness of war, the case of "Father Augustine" would supply it. The men who tortured this Filipino to death cannot now be reached under civil law. The crime was committed under military law, the fruitful mother of every sort of crime and iniquity. Since the author of the deed, Captain Brownell, was a volunteer soldier and has now left the army, neither martial law nor the civil law can touch him, though his crime is that of the basest sort of murder. He can go free in the nation anywhere he likes, parade his foul deed before the public, snap his bloody finger in all faces, and with the chaplain—holy man!—who advised him to administer the water cure to the monk who loved his country, congratulate himself that by the grace of God he was enabled to assist in bringing to a successful close a "remarkably humane" war!

What else needs to be said against a system which nullifies all civil law, sanctifies actually if not formally every sort of cruelty, and has the power to save the lowest of criminals from the just deserts of his deeds?

### **Encroachments of Militarism on the Civil Power.**

Quite as serious an aspect of the speeches and reports alluded to in the foregoing article as their revelation of the essential barbarism of war is the proof which they furnish of the encroachment of the military upon the civil power in this country. This is one of the most baneful results of the events of the past four years, and one which it will be most difficult to prevent from growing worse in the future.

Never before in the history of the country have the men of the army and the navy gone so far or been so insistent and dictatorial in their recommendations and demands. It is not surprising that they have become so. The events of the recent wars have brought numbers of them into positions of administrative authority quite unusual heretofore. The new policy on which the nation has entered will, they see, make large calls for their services hereafter. They have come to feel, therefore, that their functions in

promoting what are called the nation's new and larger interests are more important than those of any other class of men. The army and the navy, they reason, are to be the prime factors in the new rôle which the government has undertaken to play.

This thought has been stimulated in them by the speeches of the President, whose idols the army and the navy are, by secretaries of war and of the navy, and by the daily effusions of the sensational press. The war men, thus encouraged, have been quick to take advantage of the new situation and to push the claims of their profession in season and out of season.

General Young's speech at Washington, in substantial accord with which have been the recent speeches and reports of various other generals of different ranks, was a notice to all civilians in the nation to keep their mouths of criticism shut hereafter. The war men, he assumes, are the only persons capable of telling the nation how big an army it needs, how much war it ought to undertake, how drastic and cruel it should be in hostilities. That the prospective general-in-chief of the United States armies should dare to give such sentiments to the press in the capital of the nation is evidence enough of the great change which has come about. A few years ago such a deliverance would have led to his immediate degradation.

The army is thus fast coming to be supreme. It is to be held sacred, and above all criticism. The crimes of members of it, generals or privates, are to be covered up, condoned, or their perpetrators mildly reprimanded or "cautioned," simply because it is "our army." Even General Chaffee, in his last report, pleads that such men as Generals Smith and Bell may be held excusable and freed from all the censure that has been put upon them. What is all this but the beginning of the experience of "the army against the nation"?

The war men of the field and of the cabinet, it is further assumed, are the only men who can rightly interpret the intentions of Germany and other nations against our Western world, and say how great a navy we shall need to meet these. We must give them full rein to sniff the danger from afar, and hurriedly follow them in all their schemes of costly naval expansion!

Again, civilians, we are told, in Congress or out of it, know nothing about the needs of soldiers at the army posts, and cannot appreciate how ruinous to their morals and their discipline the abolition of the canteen has been. We must "go to," therefore, and reëstablish the canteen at the dictation of Funston and the rest of the commanders, who are unable to maintain order among the men who have come home debauched with Philippine drunkenness, licentiousness and unlimited blood.

The navy promoters are even more insistent. They are forever besieging our ears with their horse-leech song: "Give, give! More ships, more men, more

money." The spectre of Germany is continually haunting them. The far-away coaling-stations are in danger. No nation can now be great without a great navy, they declare. Every possible claim that can be tortured into the semblance of an argument is put forward by them to induce the representatives of the people to give them what they want. The people's money spent to the tune of one hundred millions a year — what a blessing it would be to the laborers of the country to receive that amount in wages for the building of warships! And the people are charmed, and fall down and worship the gods of the sea.

A little while ago these men with their supporters were clamoring for an "adequate" navy, whatever that may have meant. Then they wanted one just big enough to contend successfully with the Kaiser's fleet, with which we were quite certain some day to have a tilt. Now they are throwing off all disguises and demand as big a navy as any nation in the world possesses, some of them going so far as to insist that we must build a fleet "adequate" to meet the navies of any other two nations. And they will get it, for the people are following them and swallowing all the legends which they search out and turn into "patriotic" gospel.

In Congress the number of army and navy bills each session demanding attention is coming to be most extraordinary. The thought and interest of legislators and people are claimed for these subjects as for no other. Every presidential message gives to them the maximum of space. The annual budget gives them the maximum of money. Unless the people of the land can be aroused from their apathy, and the old national ideals, on which all our greatness and glory have been builded, again restored and revitalized, it begins to look not improbable that in the not far future the military will have made such encroachments upon the civil power as to have practically bound the nation hand and foot, as has been the case in France and Germany, and as threatens to be the case shortly in Great Britain. The army and navy will come to dictate largely the foreign policies of the nation, as they do in measure now, and Congress will be forced to exercise its power of declaring war at their dictation.

The peril of all this is not immediate; certainly not. And that is just wherein the danger lies. A look ahead is so difficult to most people, or so disagreeable. The incapacity and indisposition to look away to the future outcome of present courses of conduct have sent many a nation in the past straight to ruin. We do not say that such will be the fate of our beloved America. We believe in the common-sense and loyalty to democratic ideals of the people, and we have faith that they will come to themselves in time and prevent the full fruition of the evil policies now prevailing.

## Editorial Notes.

### Holiday Greetings.

All the good wishes of the season to all our readers and friends. The one thought of all during the coming holidays will be happiness and the ways in which it may be produced. There will be an immense service of love performed between the 25th of this month and the 1st of January. If the holiday spirit prevailed all the year round, there would be little friction, hate or war in the world. And why should it not? What reason is there for having a loving and helpful disposition during one week that does not equally apply to every week in the year? What obstacles are there to the possession of such a spirit at other times of the year which are not present and just as difficult to overcome during the week of happy Christmas and New Year greetings? Men and women are very much what they purpose in their hearts to be. Their thoughts about others and actions towards them are likewise very much what they wish them to be. We plead, therefore, for a perpetual spirit of genuine love and goodwill, going out in earnest and active service toward all those whom God has put it in our power to help and bless. It is on this spirit that the kingdom of peace is built up. Other agencies may aid, but this is the great force which is to redeem the world from injustice and war.

The President's annual message to Congress, which has just appeared as we go to press, contains the following interesting paragraph on arbitration and the Hague tribunal:

"As civilization grows, warfare becomes less and less the normal condition of foreign relations. The last century has seen a marked diminution of wars between civilized powers; wars with uncivilized powers are largely mere matter of international police duty, essential for the welfare of the world. Wherever possible, arbitration or some similar method should be employed in lieu of war to settle difficulties between civilized nations, although as yet the world has not progressed sufficiently to render it possible, or necessarily desirable, to invoke arbitration in every case. The formation of the international tribunal which sits at The Hague is an event of good omen from which great consequences for the welfare of all mankind may flow. It is far better, where possible, to invoke such a permanent tribunal than to create special arbitrators for a given purpose. It is a matter of sincere congratulation to our country that the United States and Mexico should have been the first to use the good offices of the Hague Court. This was done last summer with most satisfactory results in the case of a claim at issue between us and our sister republic. It is earnestly to be hoped that this first case will serve as a precedent for others, in which not only the United States but foreign nations may take advantage of the machinery already in existence at The Hague."

What the President says on the Hague Court is